

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Intervertebral linking device ~~that is~~ to connect at least two ~~vertebrae~~ bones of the spine to one another, characterised in that it comprises: comprising:

[[-]] at least one fixed ~~mobile linking~~ element (2) which is to be secured to a vertebra of the spine or to ~~the~~ a sacrum of the spine,

[[-]] at least one mobile linking element (10) suitable for being displaced relative to ~~the~~ or each fixed element (2),

[[-]] ~~and also~~ at least one intermediate element (20) permitting the articulation of ~~the~~ or each mobile linking element relative to ~~the~~ or each the at least one fixed element,

[[-]] ~~in that the~~ or wherein each intermediate element is received, ~~in use~~, in an internal volume (16) of ~~the~~ a corresponding one of the at least one mobile linking element (10), or of ~~the~~ a corresponding one of the at least one fixed element, the intermediate element being deformable ~~so that it can be introduced by impaction~~ to be placed into that the internal volume by impaction,

[[-]] and ~~in that~~ wherein the at least one fixed element (2), or the at least one mobile linking element, is received at least partially, ~~in use~~, in an internal volume (30) of the intermediate element (20), ~~the fixed element (2) or the mobile element having, with the intermediate element,~~ a mutual position of use (Figure 3B) in which ~~the fixed element or the mobile element has~~ with three degrees of freedom in rotation ~~but is relative to the intermediate element while remaining~~ linked in translation, ~~relative to the intermediate element~~, and a mutual position of introduction (Figure 3A) in which the corresponding one of the at least one fixed

element, or the corresponding one of the at least one mobile element, has three degrees of freedom in rotation and in translation relative to the intermediate element.

2. (Currently Amended) Linking device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the intermediate element assumes the form of a cup ~~(20)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) Linking device according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the internal volume ~~(30)~~ of the intermediate cup ~~(20)~~ is bordered by a truncated spherical surface ~~(28)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) Linking device according to claim 3, , ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the intermediate cup has a truncated spherical external surface ~~(26)~~, which is concentric with the internal surface ~~(28)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) Linking device according to claim 4, , ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the internal surface ~~(28)~~ and the external surface ~~(26)~~ define a wall ~~(22)~~ of the intermediate cup ~~20~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Linking device according to claim 5, , ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the thickness ~~(e)~~ of the wall ~~(22)~~ is from 0.5 to 3 mm, ~~preferably from~~ 1 to 1.5 mm.

7. (Currently Amended) Linking device according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~

claim 1, , characterised in that wherein the intermediate element ~~(20)~~ is produced from polyethylene.